

# The Hidden Epidemic

Wounds are **expensive** and affect everyone.



ALBERTA WOUND CARE SPENDING: **\$1.6 billion<sup>2</sup>**  
DIRECT COSTS



**50% of nursing visits<sup>3</sup>** involve wound care delivery in the community

**35% of persons<sup>4</sup>** receiving community care have a chronic wound

**26% of persons<sup>4</sup>** in an acute or non-acute setting have a pressure injury

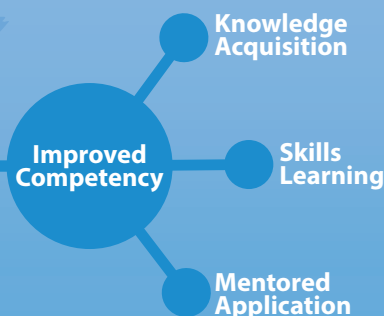
Preventing and treating wounds must be a **priority** within health care.



Patients and their families need to know more about wound prevention and self-management.



Health-care professionals need **training** to learn and implement best practice.



Best practice-based wound prevention and care **will save money.**

Sources:

1. OHA and OACCAC. 2011. Four Pillars: Recommendation for Achieving a High Performing Health System.
2. Queen D, Botros M. True cost of wounds for Canadians: annual update (2024). Wound Care Canada. 2025;23(2): 37-42. DOI: 10.56885/032346qumxzp.
3. McIsaac C. Closing the gap between evidence and action: How outcome measurement informs the implementation of evidence-based wound care practice in home care. Wounds. 2007;19(11):299-309.
4. OHA, OACCAC, OFCMHAP. 2010. Ideas and Opportunities for Bending the Health Care Cost Curve.